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**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Claims**

1-23 (Cancelled).

24 (new). A modular hookah comprising:

a base, dimensioned to contain a substantial amount of fluid, with a threaded upper end for receiving dry smoke; and

a stem, having a threaded lower end configured to mate with said threaded upper end of said base, defining a dry smoke aperture oriented to conduct dry smoke into said base and a wet smoke aperture oriented to accept wet smoke from said base.

25 (new). The modular hookah of claim 24 wherein said threaded upper end of said base comprises internal threading, and said threaded lower end of said stem comprises external threading.

26 (new). The modular hookah of claim 25 wherein said stem is a unitary stem.

27 (new). The modular hookah of claim 25 wherein said stem comprises:

an intermediate tube, having an upper end and a lower end, defining said dry smoke aperture;

a plenum further defining said dry smoke aperture and defining said wet smoke aperture, said plenum having an upper end adapted to removably fasten to said lower end of said intermediate tube; and

a down tube further defining said dry smoke aperture, said down tube having an upper end adapted to removably fasten to said plenum.

28 (new). The modular hookah of claim 27 further comprising an intermediate tube upper cap in releasable attachment to both said intermediate tube and said burner.

29 (new). The modular hookah of claim 28 further comprising an intermediate tube lower cap in releasable attachment to both said intermediate tube and said plenum.

30 (new). The modular hookah of claim 29 further comprising an intermediate tube cover dimensioned to house said intermediate tube.

31 (new). The modular hookah of claim 27 wherein said intermediate tube is adapted to threadably fasten to said plenum and said plenum is adapted to threadably fasten with both said down tube and said base.

32 (new). The modular hookah of claim 31 further comprising a burner adapted to removably fasten to said intermediate tube.

33 (new). The modular hookah of claim 32 wherein said burner is adapted to threadably fasten to said intermediate tube.

34 (new). The modular hookah of claim 24 wherein said stem further defines a pressure release aperture selectively obstructed by a pressure release valve.

35 (new). The modular hookah of claim 34 wherein said pressure release valve includes a threaded connection for releasably affixing to said stem.

36 (new). A modular hookah comprising:

a threaded burner for accepting dry smoke,

a threaded intermediate tube, releasably attached in gaseous communication with said threaded burner;

a threaded plenum, releasably attached in gaseous communication with said threaded intermediate tube, defining a wet smoke aperture for releasing wetted smoke to a user and further having a down tube for releasing dry smoke; and a threaded base, releasably attached in gaseous communication with said plenum, dimensioned to contain a substantial amount of fluid for receiving and wetting dry smoke.

37 (new). The modular hookah of claim 36 wherein said down tube is a threaded down tube, in gaseous communication with said plenum, releasably attached to said threaded plenum.

38 (new). The modular hookah of claim 37 wherein said plenum further defines a pressure release aperture, in gaseous communication with said base, selectively obstructed by a pressure release valve.

39 (new). The modular hookah of claim 34 wherein said pressure release valve is a threaded pressure release valve having a threaded connection for releasable attachment to said plenum.

40 (new). A modular hookah comprising:

a base with a threaded connection for receiving dry smoke and dimensioned to contain a substantial amount of fluid; and dry smoke conducting means, in gaseous communication with said base, with a threaded connection for releasable attachment to said base; and wet smoke conducting means, in gaseous communication with said base, for accepting and conducting wet smoke from said base.

41 (new). The modular hookah of claim 40 wherein said dry smoke means comprises a separable down tube with a threaded connection.

42 (new). The modular hookah of claim 40 wherein said dry smoke conducting means comprises:

an intermediate tube with a threaded connection; and

a threaded plenum, releasably attached in gaseous communication with said intermediate tube, having a down tube for releasing dry smoke into said base;

43 (new). The modular hookah of claim 42 wherein said dry smoke means further comprises a separable down tube with a threaded connection adapted to releasable attach said separable down tube to said threaded plenum.

44 (new). The modular hookah of claim 40 further comprising pressure stabilizing means in gaseous communication with said base.

45 (new). The modular hookah of claim 40 further comprising cover means adapted to house a substantial portion of said dry smoke conducting means.

46 (new). A method of preparing a hookah for smoking, said method comprising the steps of inserting a stem with a threaded connection into a base with a threaded connection; and screwing said stem with a threaded connection into said base with a threaded connection.